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November 6, 2000

Irene Gilbert
Fair, Isaac and Company, Inc.
120 North Redwood Drive
San Rafael, CA 94903-1996

Re: Novelty Search for PLANET TREE VIEW
       Our File: ISAA0013

Dear Irene:

Per your request, we have performed a novelty search for Fair Isaac's Planet Tree View invention. As I understand the invention, there are strategies that are provided for viewing large volumes of data. For example, design principles are provided for viewing large quantities of data, as summarized in the document *Project Planet; Efficient Display of Large Strategies*, Michael Steel and Steward Crawford (15 August 2000).

The search was performed on Dialog using patent databases that cover full text of U.S. Patents, European Patents and Patent Applications, INSPEC, NTIS, Ei Compendex, SciSearch, Dissertion Abstract Online, Global Mobility Database, Inside Conferences, Conference Papers Index, HIS International Standards and Specifications, JICST-Eplus- Japanese Science & Technology, Wilson Applied Science & Technology, Energy Science and Technology, Aerospace Database, PASCAL, Information Science Abstracts, Microcomputer Abstracts, Abstracts in New Technologies and Engineering, MatchSci, Gale Group Computer Database, SciSearch, CMP Computer Fulltext, Computer News Fulltext, DIALOG Telecommunications Newsletters, Japanese Patent Abstracts and Chinese Patent Abstracts, as well as those databases in the Derwent system.

The search was conducted in class 395 but was not limited to that class.

In view of our search, the following documents are deemed to be of greatest relevance:

- 5,991,192 (Interactive data Exploration Apparatus and Method);

- 5,958,008 (Software System and Associated Methods for Scanning and Mapping Dynamically-Generated Web Documents);

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- 5,953,017 (Compressed Object Display);

- 5,870,559 (Software System and Associated Methods for Facilitating the Analysis and Management of Web Sites);

- 5,701,137 (Method for Separating a Hierarchical Three Control Into One or More Hierarchical Child Tree Controls in a Graphical User Interface);

- INSPEC "Customizing Common Controls", Dr. Dobb's Journal vol. 22, no. 9 p. 30, 32, 34-5;

- INSPEC "SPSS More Than a Pretty Face" PC Week. V13, n6, p76 (1);

We also include for your information copies of the following documents which are deemed to be of interest in showing the technological background of the invention:

- INSPEC "Finally-A Motif Desktop For Sun-IXI Brings Graphical Desktop Environment and Personal Productivity Apps to Sun Workstations", OPEN SYSTEMS TODAY, 1993, n116, 46;

- INSPEC "Product Review-Visual Tools Share Power-Power Builder 5.0 and Centura Team Developer brings Cross-Platform Distributed Application to Familiar Windows Visual Tools", Informationweek, 1996, n581, pg. 65;

- INSPEC "Year of the User Interface", PC Tech Journal, v6, n6, pg. 25 (4) June 1998;

- INSPEC "ARCserve 5.0 Improves Ease of Use: LAN Backup Administration Made Simple", PC Week, v10, n28, pg. 22 (1);

- INSPEC "Cidewright Update Adds Heirarchical Browsing", Windows-DOS Developer's Journal, v5, n4, pg. 76 (1), April 1994;

- INSPEC "3 Doc-Management Packages Lighten Information Overload; Workgroup and OCR Features, 3-D Displays, Usual Tools Differentiate Programs", PC Week, v11, n42, pg. 85 (4);

- INSPEC "Managing Networked Servers", PC User, n295, pg. 78 (1);

- WO 97/21171 (Extensible Selection Feedback and Graphic Interaction);

- WO 95/12161 (Graphic Editor Framework System);

- WO 93/20510 (Global Process Control Information System and Method);

- European Patent Application EP 0 690 367 A1 (User Interface for Managing Media Spanning for Database Tables);

- 6,134,706 (Software Business Objects in a Multi-Level Organizational Structure);

- 6,112,202 (Method and System for Identifying Authoritative Information Resources in an Environment with Information Resources);

- 6,108,004 (Gui Guide for Data Mining);

- 6,094,654 (Data Management System for File and Database Management);

- 6,089,453 (Article-Information Display System Using Electronically Controlled Tags);

- 6,088,693 (Data Management System For File and Database Management);

- 6,078,324 (Event Signaling in a Foldable Object Tree);

- 6,073,138 (System, Method, and Computer Program Product For Providing Relational Patterns Between Entities);

- 6,014,138 (Development System with Methods for Improved Visual Programming with Hierarchical Object Explorer);

- 5,987,242 (Object-Oriented Computerized Modeling System);

- 5,982,370 (Highlighting Tool For Search Specification in a User Interface of a Computer System);

- 5,974,127 (Method and System for Planning a Telecommunications Network);

- 5,966,695 (Sales and Marketing Support System Using Graphical Query Prospect Database);

- 5,966,126 (Graphic User Interface For Database System);

- 5,953,707 (Decision Support System For The Management of an Agile Supply Chain);

- 5,930,764 (Sales and Marketing Support System Using a Customer Information Database);

- 5,920,873 (Data Management Control System for File and Database);

- 5,917,492 (Method and System for Displaying an Expandable Tree Structure in a Data Processing System Graphical User Interface);

- 5,890,131 (Project Organization and Optimization Tool and Method of Use Thereof);

- 5,870,768 (Expert System and Method Employing Hierarchical Knowledge Base, and Interactive Multimedia/Hypermedia Application);

- 5,822,745 (Expert System and Method Employing Hierarchical Knowledge Base, and Interactive Multimedia/Hypermedia Application);

- 5,806,056 (Expert System and Method Employing Hierarchical Knowledge Base, and Interactive Multimedia/Hypermedia Application);

- 5,796,932 (User Interface for Graphically Displaying the Impact of Weather on Managerial Planning);

- 5,787,416 (Method For Hypertext Reporting in a Relational Database Management System);

- 5,745,712 (Graphical Programming System and Methods for Assisting a User with Creating Screen Objects on a Screen Device);

- 5,742,836 (Graphical Programming System and Methods with User Interface);

- 5,720,007 (Expert System and Method Employing Hierarchical Knowledge Base, and Interactive Multimedia/Hypermedia Application);

- 5,710,896 (Object-Oriented graphic System with Extensible Damage Repair and Drawing Constraints);

- 5,701,400 (Method and Apparatus for Applying If-Then-Else Rules to Data Sets in a Relational Data Base and Generating From the Results of Application of Said Data Sets to Aid Executive Analysis of Financial Data);

- 5,696,885 (Expert System and Method Employing Hierarchical Knowledge Base, and Interactive Multimedia/Hypermedia Application);

- 5,682,487 (Method and Apparatus Providing Resizable Views);

- 5,644,686 (Expert System and Method Employing Hierarchical Knowledge Base, and Interactive Multimedia/Hypermedia Application);

- 5,692,107 (Method for Generating Predictive Models in a Computer System);

- 5,623,541 (Apparatus to Manipulate and Examine the Data Structure that Supports Digit Analysis in Telecommunications Call Processing);

- 5,608,898 (Development System with Methods for Maintaining Data Integrity of Information Stored as a Data Record in a Database with a Copy of the Information Displayed on a Screen Device);

- 5,603,025 (Methods For Hypertext Reporting in a Relational Database Management System);

- European Patent Application 0 978 989 A2 (Appliance and Method for Menu Navigation);

- 5,537,630 (Method and System for Specifying Method Parameters in a Programming System);

- European Patent Application 0 770 967 A2 (Decision Support System for the Management of an Agile Supply Chain);

- European Patent Application 0 717 346 A2 (Hierarchical Data Display Method and Information Processing System for Realizing it).

We have also aware of two documents, which have been provided by the inventors, and we have considered these in making our determination of patentability of the Fair Isaac invention.

- John Lamping, Ramona Rao, and Peter Pirolli "A Focus + Context Technique Based on Hyperbolic Geometry for Visualizing Large Hierarchies", Xerox Palo Alto Research Center;

- George W. Furnas "Generalized Fisheye Views", Human Factors in Computing Systems CHI '86 Conference Proceedings, 16-23. 1986.

Based on the results of our search and our review of the provided documents, it appears that various aspects of the Fair Isaac's invention are novel and should be entitled to patent protection. Please have the inventors review the results carefully. After they have completed their review, if they have any questions they should contact us to discuss the search results. We will await your further instructions in this matter.

Very truly yours,

Michael A. Glenn

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Enclosures